Highways Authority of India and Public Works Department of Government of NCT, Delhi to keep National Highways in good condition.

Hijackings off the Somali coast

511. SHRI B.S. GNANADESIKAN: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Supreme Court has urged Government to put in place a set of guidelines for safeguarding the interests of Indian seafarers and to take investigation on increased hijacking incidents off the Somali coast by pirates;

(b) if so, the reaction by Government and number of Indian vessels hijacked on the Somali coast by pirates; and

(c) the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

(b) and (c) The details of piracy related incidents involving Indian flag vessels are given below:-

Sl. No.	Name of vessel	Date of hijacking	Date of release	Date of attempted hijacking
1.	MSV Shiv shamboo	20.10.2008	25.10.2008	—
2.	MV Jag Arnav	—	—	11.11.2008
3.	MT Abul Kalam Azad	—	—	1.1.2009
4.	Prem Divya	—	—	12.2.2009

NH completion targets

512. SHRI GIREESH KUMAR SANGHI: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) has reported a drop in its massive highways upgradation exercise in 2007;

(b) whether NHAI has set the highest ever highway completion targets for itself for 2008-09 and has unveiled largest ever expenditure plans for the same period;

(c) if so, whether the completion target of 3,597 kms. for 2008-09 is far above previous year's targets;

(d) whether in 2007-08 NHAI had targeted to upgrade 2885 kms. of NHs whereas it managed only 1614 kms; and